



(1a)

wherein:

R is a carboxylic acid;

R¹ is an optionally substituted pyridyl group;

Alk¹ is an optionally substituted C₁₋₆ aliphatic chain or C₁₋₆ heteroaliphatic chain containing one, two, three or four heteroatoms or heteroatom-containing groups;

L¹ is a linker atom or group;

r and s, which may be the same or different, is each zero or an integer 1;

Alk² is a straight or branched alkylene chain;

m is zero or an integer 1;

R² is a hydrogen atom or a methyl group;

X¹ is a group selected from -N(R³)CO-, (where R³ is a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched alkyl group); -N(R³)SO₂-, -N(R³)C(O)O- or -N(R³)CON(R^{3a})- (where R^{3a} is a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched alkyl group);

R⁴ is an optionally substituted C₁₋₆ aliphatic, C₃₋₁₀ cycloaliphatic or C₇₋₁₀ polycycloaliphatic group;

and the salts, solvates, hydrates and N-oxides thereof.

12. (amended once) A compound which is:

N-Isopropaloyl-*N*-(3,5-dichloroisonicotinoyl)-*L*-4-aminophenylalanine;

N-Cyclopropaloyl-*N*-(3,5-dichloroisonicotinoyl)-*L*-4-aminophenylalanine;

N-Acetyl-*N'*-(3,5-dichloroisonicotinoyl)-*L*-4-aminophenylalanine;

